



**MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 23, 2025 HEARING OF THE
NEW YORK CITY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION**

A duly noticed meeting of the New York City Charter Revision Commission was held at Snug Harbor Cultural Center, 1000 Richmond Terrace, Building P, Staten Island, at 5 p.m. on June 23, 2025.

Chair Richard Buery called the meeting to order at approximately 5:26 p.m.

Also present were the following members of the Commission:

- Shams DaBaron
- Valerie White
- Kathryn Wylde
- Leile Bozorg
- Anita Laremont
- Diane Savino
- Carl Weisbrod¹
- Lizette Nieves¹

¹ Attended via teleconference

- Julie Samuels¹

The Chair provided introductions and an overview of the Charter Revision Commission's role and explained ways for the public to provide testimony in-person or virtually at public hearings and by submitting written testimony online. The Chair opened the floor for public testimony, limited to three minutes per speaker.

- Council Member Frank Morano, testified in support of changes to Community Board appointments.
- Sean Campion, Director of Housing and Economic Development Studies at Citizens Budget Commission, testified on streamlining ULURP.
- Cliff Hagan testified on changes to ULURP.
- Jen Gaboury, a political scientist, testified against open primaries.
- Diane Stiles, testified in support of open primaries.
- Cathy Stewart testified in support of open primaries.
- Susan Lerner, Executive Director of Common Cause, testified against advancing open primaries this year.
- Vincent Albanese, Executive Director of New York State Laborers Political Action Committee, testified in support of open primaries.
- Richard Barton, a professor from Syracuse University, testified on research supporting open primaries.

- Melanie La Rocca, former Commissioner of the Department of Buildings, testified in favor of changes to ULURP.
- Jesse Lang, testified in favor of changes to ULURP.
- Nicole Campo, testified in favor of changes to the administration of the City Map.
- Bob Kelly, testified in favor of changes to the administration of the City Map.
- L. Joy Williams, President of the New York State Conference of the NAACP, testified against advancing open primaries this year.
- Rachael Fauss, Senior Policy Advisor at Reinvent Albany, testified in favor of open primaries where the top four vote getters proceed to the general election (“top four general election”).
- Grace Rauh, Executive Director of Citizens Union, testified in support of even year elections and open primaries.
- Seth Masket, a Professor at the University of Denver, testified against open primaries.
- Valerie De La Rosa, Chair Manhattan Community Board 2, testified against changes to ULURP.
- Celia Iervasi, spoke in favor of changes to community board appointment processes.

- Charles Moerdler, Chair of Bronx Community Board 8's Land Use committee spoke against changes to ULURP.
- Don Hulbert, testified in support of open primaries.
- Cynthia Terrell, Founder of Represent Women, spoke in favor of a top four general election.
- David Cherry, President of the Chicago Faith Leaders Network, spoke in favor of open primaries.
- Deborah Green, testified in favor of open primaries.
- Alexander Rabb, General Counsel of the Working Families Party, spoke of potential legal concerns around the implementation of open primaries.
- Rob Ritchie, President of Expand Democracy, testified in favor of an open primary with a top four general election.
- Natalia Aristizabal, Deputy Director of Make the Road New York, testified against open primaries.
- Eric Bronner, Founder of Veterans for All Voters, spoke in favor of open primaries.
- Robert Anglin, testified against open primaries.

After hearing from all those members of the public in attendance who wished to speak, Chair Buery closed the public hearing portion of the meeting.

Upon motion, the minutes from the meeting of the Commission held June 10, 2025 were unanimously adopted by all Commissioners present.

The meeting was adjourned on motion by the Chair at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Brodheim
New York City Charter Revision Commission

Adopted:



Leila Bozorg, Secretary
New York City Charter Revision Commission

July 7, 2025